



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. **(original):** A toner comprising a binder resin and at least a colorant, wherein the toner has a variation of its storage modulus (G' (NL)) in a nonlinear region at 180°C during 200 seconds, in step strain measurement of from a linear region to a nonlinear region of viscoelastic characteristics, of from 12 to 100 dyn/cm².

2. **(original):** The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner has loss modulus (G'' (NL)) in a nonlinear region of from 1,500 to 5,000 dyn/cm².

3. **(original):** The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner contains a release agent in an amount of 4 parts by weight or less per 100 parts by weight of the binder resin.

4. **(original):** An image-forming apparatus comprising at least:
an image carrier on which an electrostatic latent image is formed;
a developing unit which develops the electrostatic latent image on the image carrier to form a toner image by a toner;
a transferring unit which transfers the toner image on the image carrier to a recording medium; and
a fixing unit which fixes the toner image transferred to the recording medium by heating,

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wherein the toner is the toner according to any one of claims 1 to 3,
wherein the fixing unit has a belt.

5.-8. (canceled).